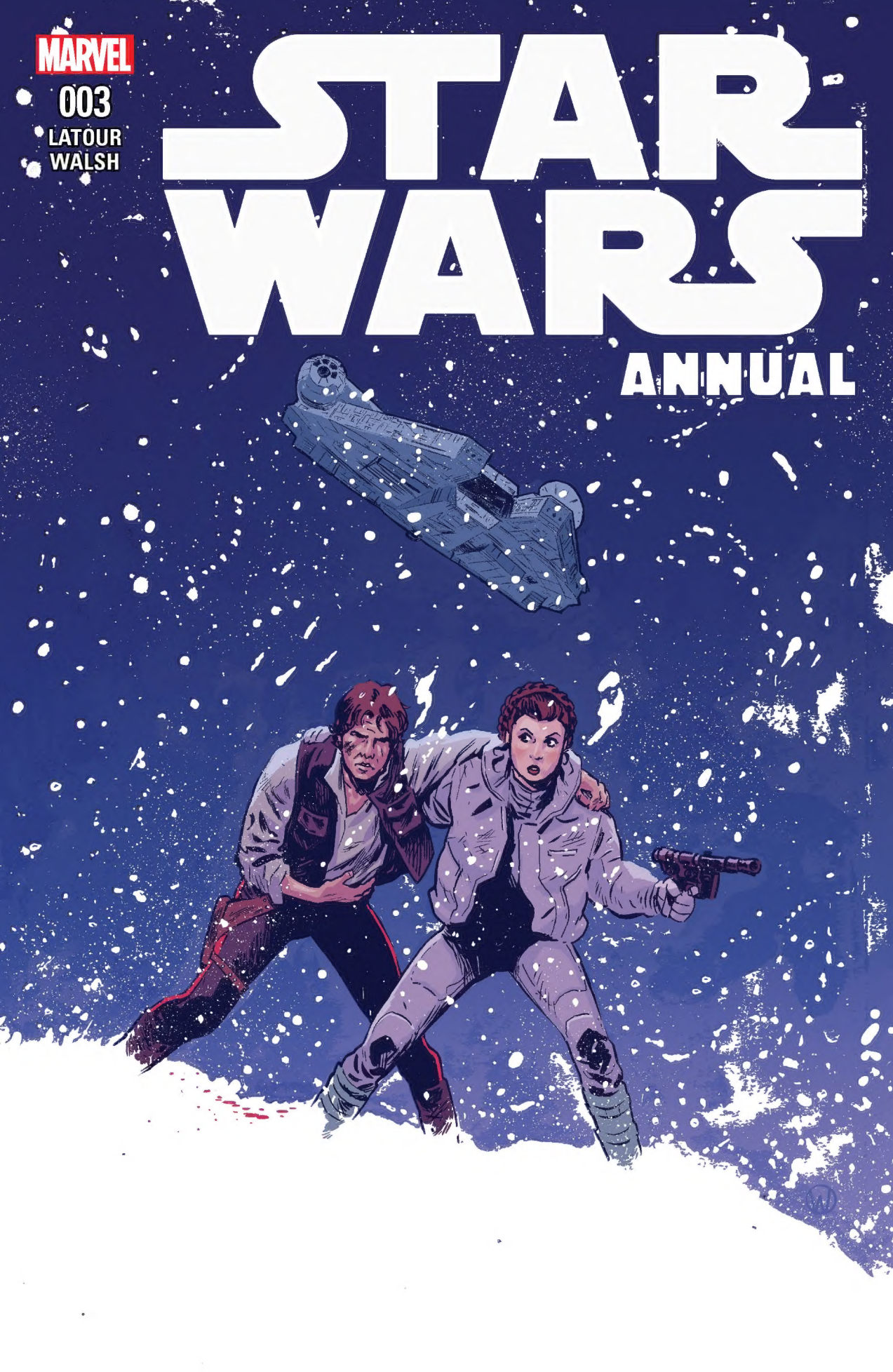
MARVEL
003
LATOUR
WALSH
STAR WARS
ANNUAL

STAR WARS
Annual III

In an effort to find a new staging ground for a hidden rebel base, Han Solo has led rebel leader Princess Leia to the planet of Odona, a remote world of harsh extremes and secret alcoves long used by pirates and smugglers to avoid the Empire.

But as their mission stretches on, Han and Leia find themselves cut off from their allies, and lost in the caves of Odona as a massive ice storm approaches....

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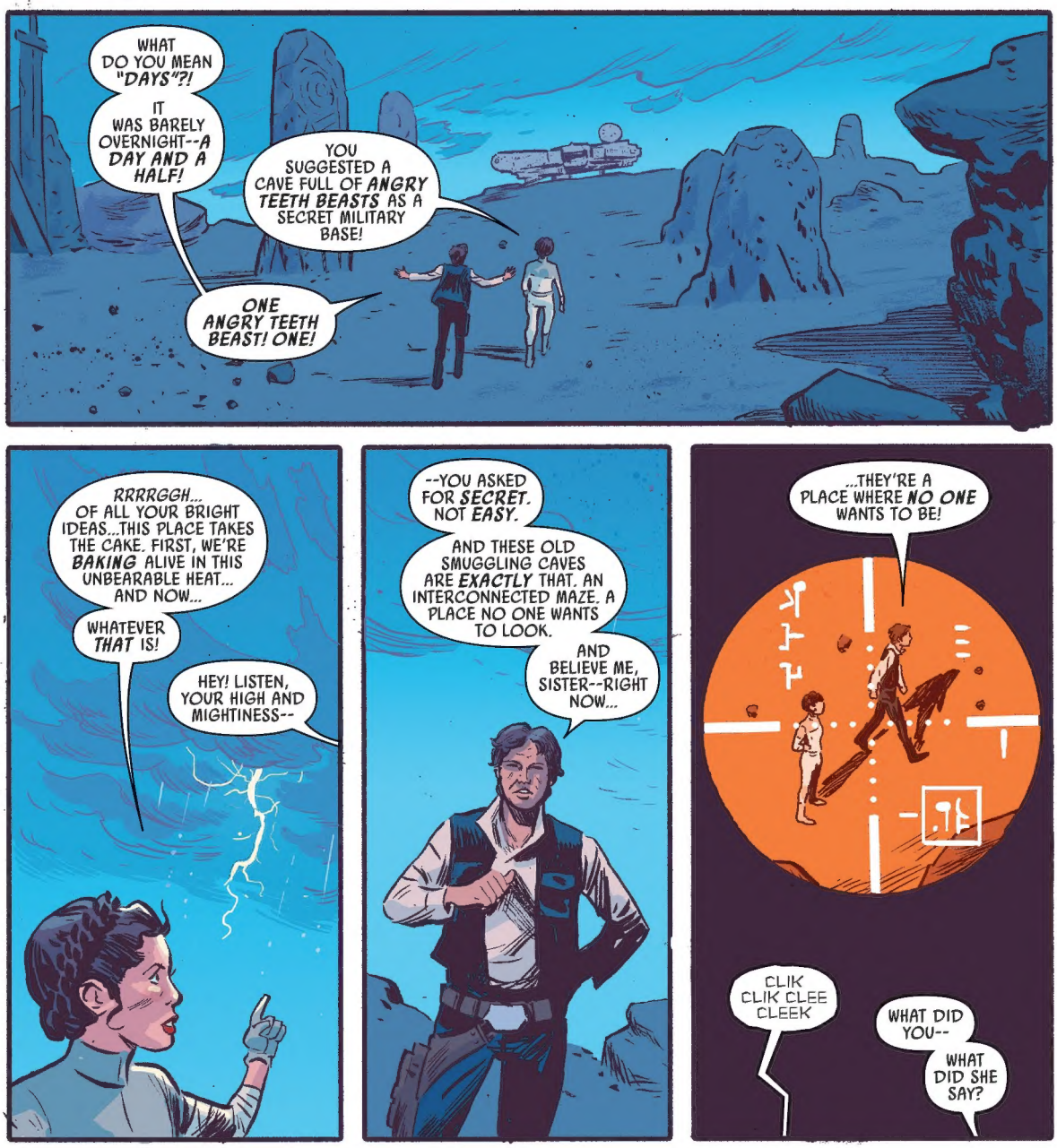
HNF! HNF!
RRRRRAAR
HNF! HNF!
THE CEILING...
THE CEILING, LASER BRAIN!
SHOOT THE CEILING!

RRRRRRR
Odona.
=COUGH=...
=COUGH=...
WELL?
YOU'RE WELCOME, LEIA.
WELL WHAT?
"YOU'RE WELCOME"? FOR WHAT?!
OH, I DON'T KNOW...
...MAYBE FOR PROTECTING YOU FROM THAT ROLLING BALL OF ANGRY TEETH?
UNBELIEVABLE.
NO. SCRATCH THAT. TOTALLY BELIEVABLE FROM YOU.
YOU TOLD ME YOU KNEW THESE CAVES!
WE WERE LOST DOWN THERE FOR DAYS, HAN!
"DAYS"?!


WHAT DO YOU MEAN "DAYS"?!
IT WAS BARELY OVERNIGHT--A DAY AND A HALF!
YOU SUGGESTED A CAVE FULL OF ANGRY TEETH BEASTS AS A SECRET MILITARY BASE!
ONE ANGRY TEETH BEAST! ONE!
RRRRGGH... OF ALL YOUR BRIGHT IDEAS...THIS PLACE TAKES THE CAKE. FIRST, WE'RE BAKING ALIVE IN THIS UNBEARABLE HEAT... AND NOW...
WHATEVER THAT IS!
HEY! LISTEN, YOUR HIGH AND MIGHTINESS--
--YOU ASKED FOR SECRET. NOT EASY.
AND THESE OLD SMUGGLING CAVES ARE EXACTLY THAT. AN INTERCONNECTED MAZE. A PLACE NO ONE WANTS TO LOOK.
AND BELIEVE ME, SISTER--RIGHT NOW...
...THEY'RE A PLACE WHERE NO ONE WANTS TO BE!
CLIK CLIK CLEE CLEEK
WHAT DID YOU--
WHAT DID SHE SAY?
SELT SAYS--ZZZT-- PATIENCE.
WIND MAKES THE SHOT--ZZZT-- UNPREDICTABLE--
PATIENCE IS NOT A LUXURY WE POSSESS...
THEY ARE EXPOSED HERE. NOW. IF THEY RETURN TO THE REBELLION WE WON'T GET THIS CHANCE AGAIN...

TAKE THE DAMN SHOT.
SPEED IT UP! WE GET HIT BY THAT STORM AND WE'LL NEVER CATCH UP WITH YOUR PRECIOUS FLEET.
OH, NOW YOU'RE IN A HURRY?
WHAT'S WRONG, HAN?
YOU THINK I WOULDN'T NOTICE YOU LEFT CHEWIE BEHIND?
ROMANTIC LITTLE DEATH TRAP NOT GOING ACCORDING TO YOUR PLAN?
HA! LIKE YOU DIDN'T JUMP AT THE CHANCE TO FOLLOW ME!
FACE IT, PRINCESS--YOU NEEDED TO BE HERE. AWAY FROM YOUR STUFFY OLD RULES.
YOU NEED ME TO HELP YOU FEEL--
PEW
KSSSH
--ALIVE.
WHAT HAVE YOU GOTTEN US INTO NOW?!
ME?!
I SWEAR I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH--
PEW
PEW
PEW

PRINCESS LEIA!
HAH! SEE?! I TOLD YOU!
GIVE US THE SCOUNDREL SOLO!
FIRST SHOTS WERE BUT--ZZTT--WARNING!
GIVE US SOLO AND YOU MAY--ZZTT--RETURN TO--ZZTT--REBELLION UNHARMED.
JABBA. GOT TO BE JABBA.
HEY, PAL! RELAX WITH THE BLASTER FIRE, WILL YA?!
I CAN'T PAY YOUR BOSS IF I'M--
CHK
CHK
BUDDAAAT BUDDAAAT BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT

UM...I DON'T THINK THEY'RE AFTER MONEY.
RRRRGH.

BUDDAAAT BUDDAAAT
THIS COVER'S NOT GOING TO LAST!
WE HAVE TO MOVE, HAN!

NO...THEY SAID IT. IT'S ME THEY WANT.
YOU HAVE TO GET TO THE FALCON.
WHAT? HAN, ARE YOU--

HAN!
PEW
BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT

BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT
BUDDAAAT
HAN!

DAMN YOU, SOLO.
.49
KABOOM

HNNGF... GREAT, HAN. JUST GREAT!
WRONG DAMN TUNNEL... HNNGF...
AGAIN!
HE'S THROUGH THAT DEBRIS--GET UP THERE AND DIG!
DIG? WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER ENTRANCE? CERTAINLY IT MUST--
GUNF!
BAH! THERE IS NOWHERE FOR HIM TO RUN!
THERE IS NOWHERE TO HIDE!
SOLO! I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME, SOLO!
YOUR PRINCESS HAS ABANDONED YOU!
LEFT YOU TO YOUR FATE!
JUST AS YOU ABANDONED ME--
--TO A FATE THAT HAS LED US HERE--TO THIS RECKONING!
FACE ME, SOLO! DIE WITH THE DIGNITY YOU LACKED IN LIFE!
PAY YOUR BLOOD DEBT!

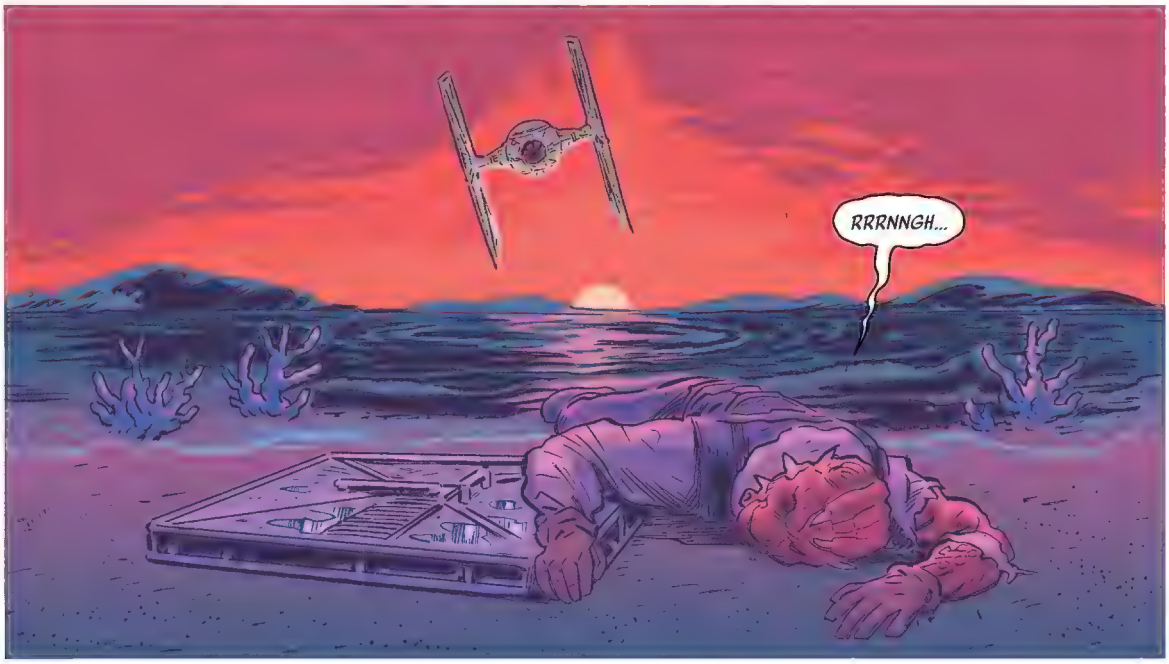
Not Too Long Ago...
Not Too Far Away.
"HONOR OUR DEAL!"
YOU ASSURED ME WE COULD DO THIS, SOLO!
YOU SWORE IT ON YOUR LIFE!
WE'RE TOO SLOW! CARGO IS TOO DAMN HEAVY, FRAX!
RRRRGGGGH!
I KNOW SPACE IS WEIGHTLESS, FUZZ-BRAIN! BUT WE GOTTA GET THERE FIRST!
I PUT MY NECK OUT FOR THIS! FOR YOU!
IT'S TWO TONS OF CORDAXIAN ORE, FRAX!
"OF COURSE THE EMPIRE WAS GOING TO NOTICE!"
FRAX, OLD BUDDY, RE-LAAAX...
I MEAN--IT'S TWO MEASLEY TONS OF CORDAXIAN ORE.
WHO'S GONNA EVEN NOTICE?
I USED MY SECURITY CODES! THEY'LL PUT ME IN CHAINS!
DUMP THE CARGO?! BREAK OUR DEAL?!
YEAH, WELL, MORE REASON TO STOP YAPPING AND HELP ME DUMP THE DAMN EVIDENCE!
YOU DUMP THAT ORE AND THEY'LL STRING US ALL UP!
BUT WITH IT--I CAN SAY YOU FORCED ME!
NO ONE WILL BELIEVE A WOOKIEE AND HIS FILTHY DEAL-BREAKING APE!
FORCED?! FILTHY?! WHY YOU--

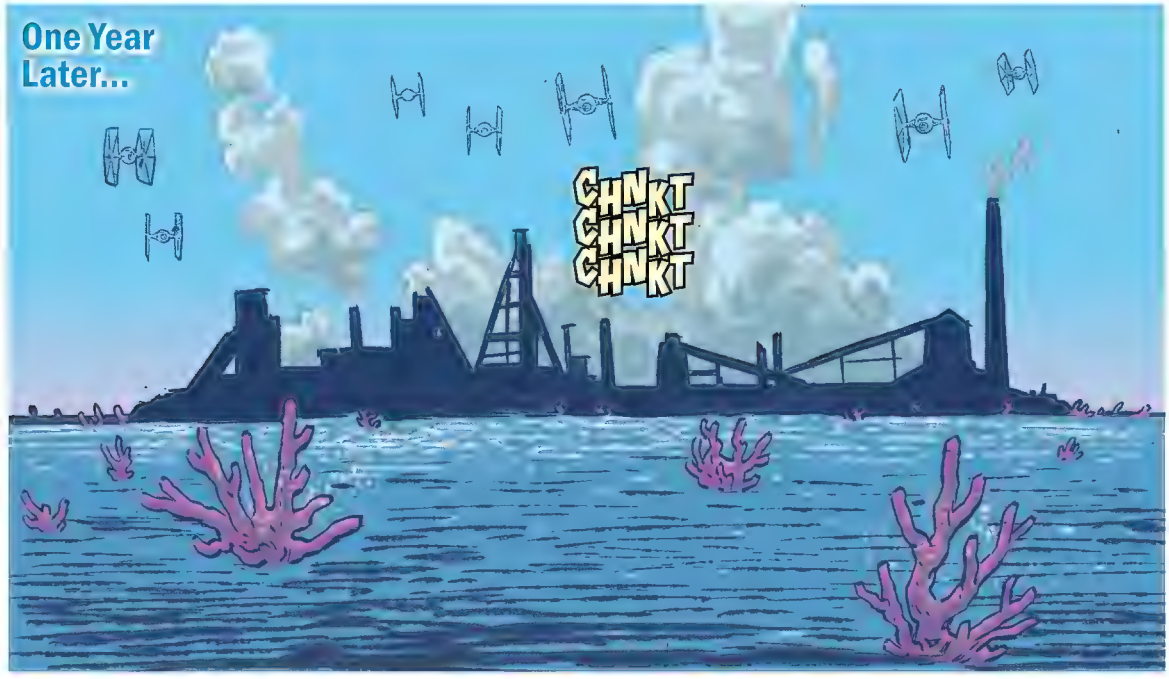
RRRGGGG--
RRRRGGGGH!

KILL YOU... KILL YOU BOTH FOR THIS...
DAMN IT, FRAX! DON'T--

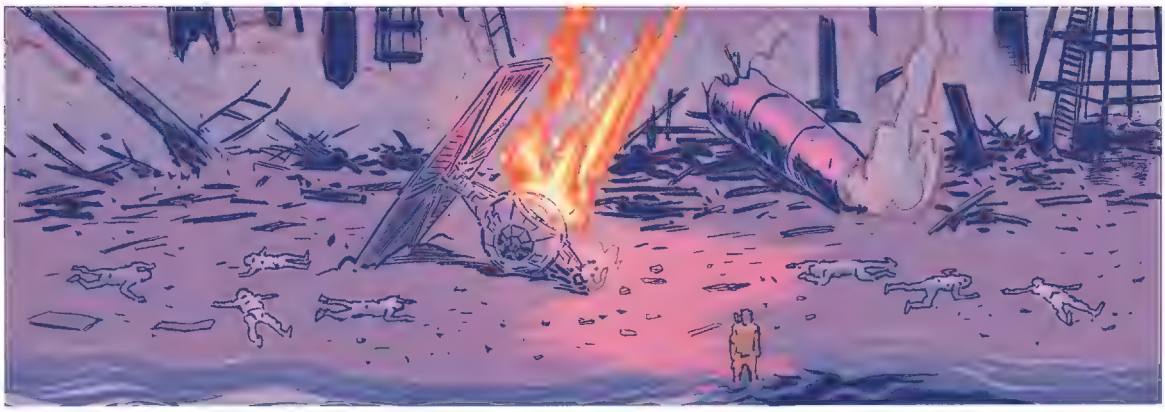
SHUNK
PEW
FWOOSH
NNNNRGH!

WELL?!
WE LIGHT ENOUGH NOW, FUZZBALL?!
SPLSH


RRRNNGH...


One Year Later...
CHNKT
CHNKT
CHNKT

CHNKT CHNKT CHNKT
HRRNNGH.
NO MORE... PLEASE...
ONE DAY OFF... PLEASE...
HOW LONG DID YOU WORK HERE, FRAX?
HOW LONG DID YOU HELP THE EMPIRE KEEP THEIR BOOTS ON OUR NECKS?
GLURRGH... CAN'T... GLHUURRGH...
GLURRGH... NOT...
AND NOW YOU DARE TO QUIT? YOU DARE TO BEG FOR--
POW POW POW
--MERCY?
WIP WIP WIP
BOOOM

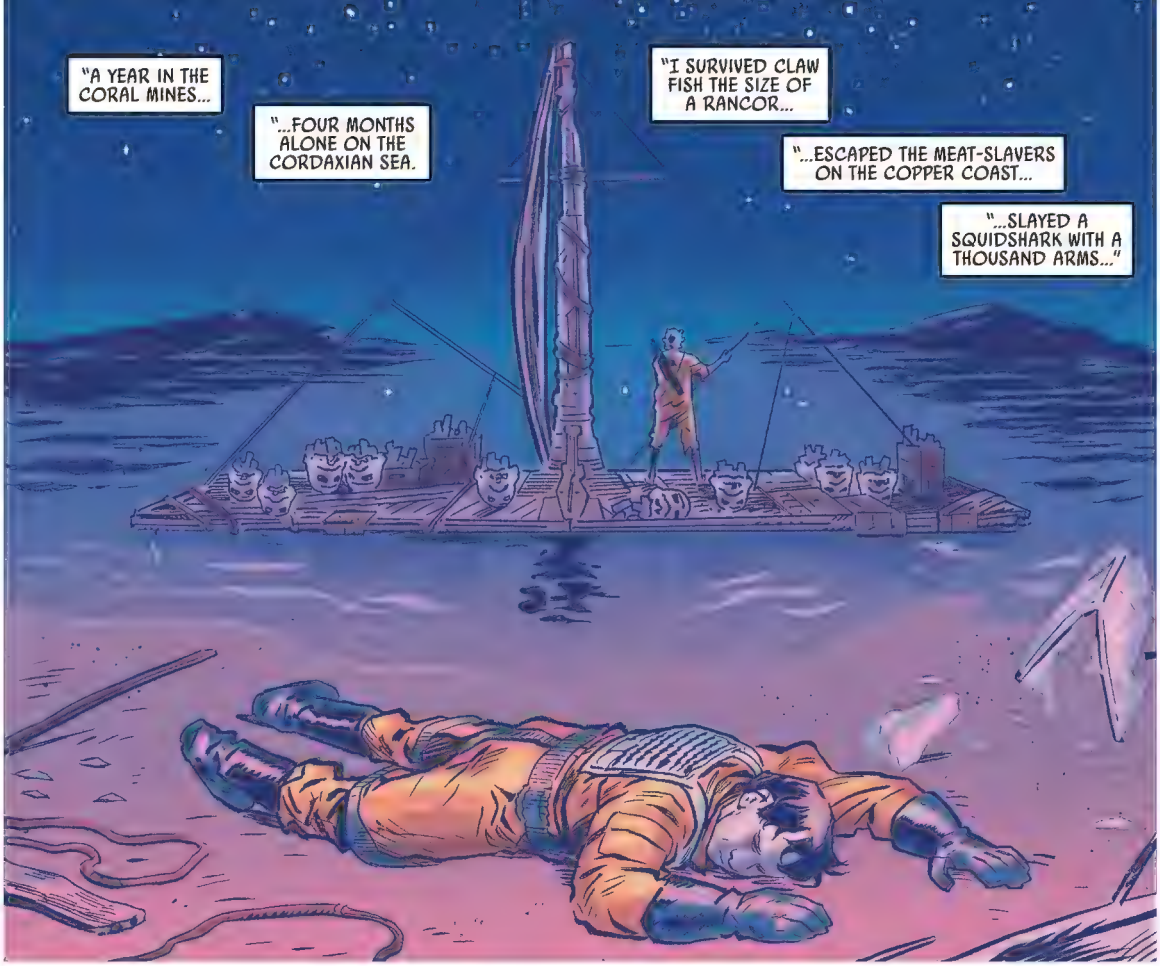


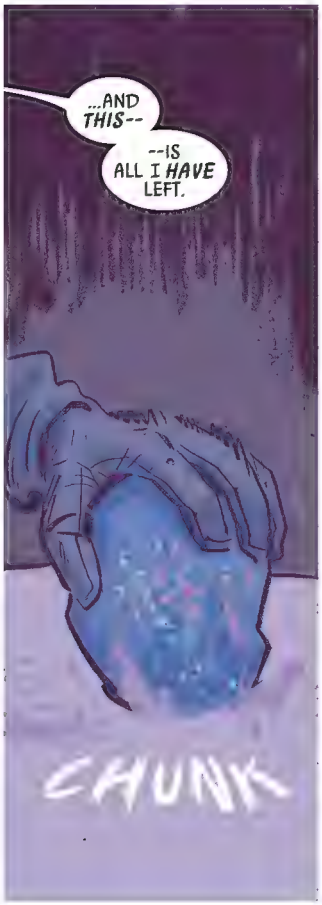
HEY, PAL...
GEEZ, ARE YOU...ALL RIGHT?

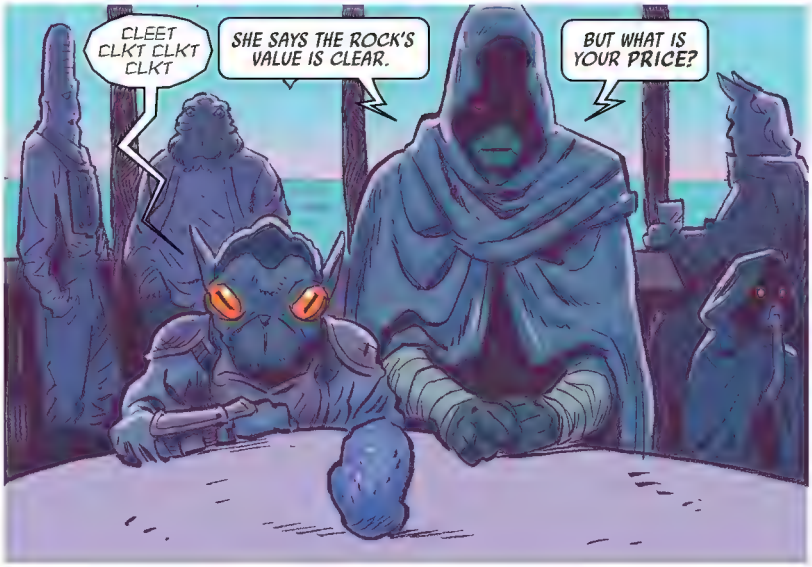
I SWEAR. INTEL SAID THIS BEACH WAS ALL *IMPERIAL* MINING DROIDS AND--
GEEZ.

WELL-- DOESN'T MATTER NOW, RIGHT?
C'MON. I'M GROUNDED. R2 UNIT IS TORCHED. BUT EVAC WILL SEE MY SHIP.
THEY'LL GET US OFF THIS *WORTHLESS* ROCK. AWAY FROM ALL THIS *MESS*.
...MESS...?

...WORTHLESS...?


"A YEAR IN THE CORAL MINES...
"...FOUR MONTHS ALONE ON THE CORDAXIAN SEA.
"I SURVIVED CLAW FISH THE SIZE OF A RANCOR...
"...ESCAPED THE MEAT-SLAVERS ON THE COPPER COAST...
"...SLAYED A SQUIDSHARK WITH A THOUSAND ARMS..."


...AND THIS--
--IS ALL I HAVE LEFT.
CHUNK


CLEET CLKT CLKT CLKT
SHE SAYS THE ROCK'S VALUE IS CLEAR.
BUT WHAT IS YOUR PRICE?

MY PRICE IS THE ONLY THING IN THIS GALAXY I VALUE MORE.
I WANT WHAT I'M OWED.
I WANT THE LIFE OF MY BETRAYER...

"...THE HUMILIATION OF HAN SOLO."
DAMN YOU, SOLO!
DAMN THIS FLOATING GYM LOCKER YOU CALL A STARSHIP!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIGHT WITH THIS JUNK?!
WHUMP
CLANK
GAH!
OH.
OH, YEAH.
WELL, THAT--THAT'S MORE LIKE IT.

"AN INTERCONNECTED MAZE," HAN?
YOU BETTER HOPE THAT'S TRUE.
BUDDAA-T BUDDAAAT
HONOR OUR DEAL?!
YOU THINK I SWINDLED YOU?! THAT I'M THE CHEAT?!
THERE'S THREE OF YOU AND A ROTARY BLASTER, FRAX--

--WELL, WHAT KINDA FAIR FIGHT IS THAT?!
CLEE CLK CLK CLK
SHE SAYS THAT YOU SHOULD NOT LISTEN...
...BUT THAT SOLO IS RIGHT.
RRRRGGH!
CHK SKR CHK
EE CHK KRT
CHK SKRE
SKREE SKREE
CHK
CHK
CHK
ONE ANGRY TEETH BEAST, MY BUTT.

CHK CHK SKREE
HNGFF!

PEW
PEW PEW

PEW
PEW PEW
RNNGH!

UNGF!

YOU LEFT ME TO DIE FOR TWO MEASLY TONS OF ROCK, SOLO.
AND NOW THIS IS HOW IT ENDS FOR YOU. YOU DIE HERE. ALONE.
A LIFE WORTH LESS THAN A SINGLE STONE.

FFSHHH

VSH

WHOOOSH

ZZTT--NOT A VERY GOOD PLAN, PRINCESS.
HAN!
THE CEILING!
PEW
PSSSHHH
SPRK
AAAAGGGH!

CLEK CLEK CLEK CLEK
PEW
CLK CLEEK CLEK CLIK
RRRARRGGGHH!
PEW
RRRARRGGGHH!
RRRRGGGAHHH!
SOLO!

I--I KNOW-- KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...
...BUT THERE'S NO WAY...BOTH OF US...
...EVEN BUNDLED TOGETHER...TOO SLOW...TOO COLD NOW...WE'D FREEZE...
YOU ALONE, THOUGH...TIME IT RIGHT...
HAN, STOP.
WE'VE BEEN GONE A LONG TIME. THE ALLIANCE WILL--
COME FOR YOU, MAYBE...BUT ME...NO...
SCORE WAS MY IDEA... CONVINCED FRAX...
DUMPED HIM...RAN AWAY... ALWAYS...
LISTEN TO ME, SOLO. NO ONE SEES YOUR FAULTS BETTER THAN ME.
BUT THIS FRAX--HE ONLY BLAMES YOU BECAUSE IT'S CONVENIENT.
EASIER THAN OWNING HIS OWN CHOICES.
D-DOESN'T MATTER, LEIA.
FRAX OR NO FRAX...
...TH-TH-THINGS I'VE DONE...PEOPLE I'VE HURT...
...CAN'T RUN AWAY FOREVER.

CLKK CLEEEK CKLLK
SELT SAYS YOU SAID THE SMUGGLER WAS A--ZZT--COWARD.
THE GIRL WAS--ZZT--JUST A PRINCESS.
THE PATH AHEAD IS BLOCKED--ZZT.
WE DOUBLE BACK--ZZT--WAIT FOR THE STORM TO BREAK.
EXIT--ZZT--CAVERNS WHERE WE FOLLOWED SOLO IN.
WE'RE GOING HOME. YOU CAN--ZZT--KEEP YOUR MONEY.
SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO RUN OUT?
BREAK OUR DEAL?
LIKE HELL YOU ARE.

THERE... WHEN THE NEXT FLURRY BREAKS.
WE MAKE A RUN. WE--
LEIA. I C-CAN'T--I W-WON'T...
YESSS...
RIGHT ABOUT THAT, S-S-SOLO--
Y-YOU-- YOU'RE-- NOT GOING ANYWHERE...
DAMN IT, FRAX. DON'T DO THIS...DON'T MAKE ME...
BAH. YOUR S-S-SHAKY B-BLASTER--IS NOT HOW F-FRAX MEETS HIS END...
I HAVE ENDURED...SUFFERING B-B-BEYOND C-C-COLD...
F-FACED H-H-HORRORS... WORSE THAN D-D-DEATH...
NO MORE R-RUNNING, SOLO--NO MORE H-HIDING!
S-STEP F-FROM THE CAVE...LET US *END* TH-THIS AS MEN...
BOYS... BOYS...

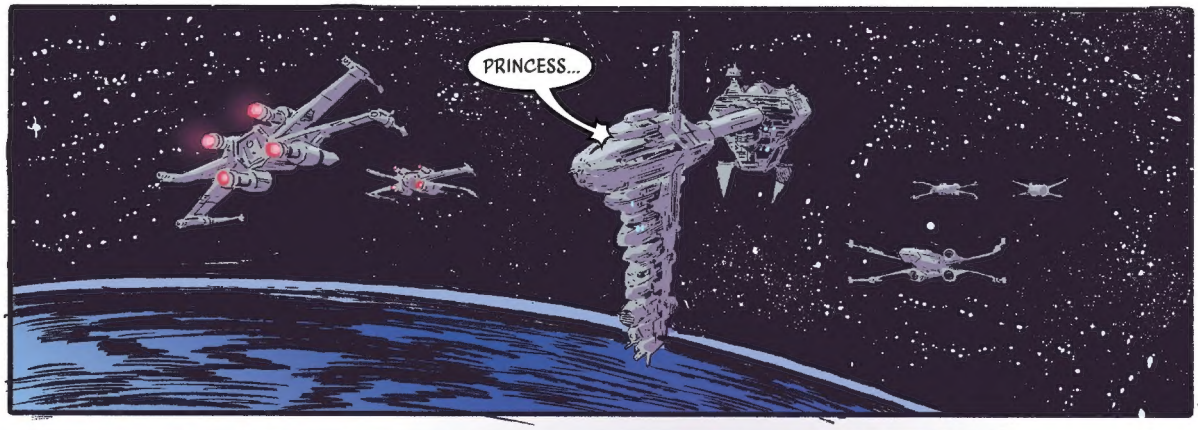
I'M TIRED OF YOU TWO TALKING LIKE I'M NOT HERE.
PEW
GET OUT OF THE WAY, HAN!
YOU M-M-M-MANIAC!
PEW
Y-YOU'VE SEALED BOTH ENTRANCES?!
YOU'VE DOOMED US ALL, GIRL!
"GIRL"?
HEH--

--THAT'S PRINCESS TO YOU, PAL.
AW, POOR FRAX!
ALWAYS LEFT BEHIND!
RRGH!

HNGH!
UNGF!
NO...
NO... CAN'T...QUIT... CAN'T...
CRNCH
CRNCH

NO!

RUUURRRRGGGHH!


PRINCESS...

CAPTAIN SOLO.

LEIA, LISTEN... I...LOOK, YOU SAVED MY NECK OUT THERE, LEIA. AND I--I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW...
HAN, DON'T. IT'S NOT NECESSARY FOR YOU TO--

LOOK-- HAN SOLO ALWAYS PAYS HIS DEBTS, OKAY?
SO DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT *THAT*.

YOU BUCKET BRAIN....

...YOU DON'T OWE ME ANYTHING, HAN.
IN THE ALLIANCE, WE DON'T KEEP A TALLY OF DEBTS!
AND WE DON'T BLAME OTHERS WHEN OUR CHOICES TURN OUT POORLY.
WE MAKE THE BEST OF IT--
--TOGETHER.
HEH. YEAH... YEAH...
YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING ELSE, YOU KNOW THAT, PRINCESS?
OH, YOU JUST LOVE HIGH-ROADING ME, DON'T YOU?
RUBBING MY NOSE IN HOW HONORABLE YOU ALL ARE!
WELL, NO WAY, SISTER! NOT THIS TIME! SQUARE IS SQUARE!
AND I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE 'TIL WE ARE!
WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
The End.

STAR WARS™
NEXT ISSUE: